



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

AOYAGI ET AL.

Serial No.:

09/509,449

Filed:

March 28, 2000

Due Date:

March 27, 2002

Title:

METHOD FOR MEASUREMENT OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS

Examiner:

D. WORTMAN

Group Art Unit:

1648

Docket:

594.352USWO

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APR 04 2002

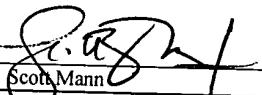
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

'Express Mail' mailing label number: EV 077885379 US

Date of Deposit: March 27, 2002

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By:   
Scott Mann

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

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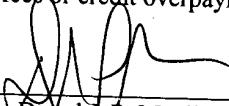
APR 03 2002

TC 1700

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Amendment
- Request for Extension of Time for 3 (three) month(s) and fee of \$920.00
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
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By:   
Name: Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300  
DPM/NJP/rmz





#1750

PATENT AD

4/4/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: AOYAGI ET AL. Examiner: D. WORTMAN  
Serial No.: 09/509,449 Group Art Unit: 1648  
Filed: MARCH 28, 2000 Docket No.: 594.352USWO  
Title: METHOD FOR MEASUREMENT OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS

## CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

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By:   
Name: Scott Mann

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

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APR 03 2002

TC 1700

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 27, 2001, please amend the above-referenced application for patent as follows:

In the claims

Please cancel claims 1-7 and add new claims 8-17 to read as set forth below:

8. (New) A method for determining the presence of HCV antigens and/or anti-HCV antibodies in a sample, at the same time, in the same reaction vessel, comprising the steps of:

- contacting the sample with a molecule that binds specifically to HCV antigen to capture HCV antigen and with a peptide that binds specifically to anti-HCV antibodies to capture anti-HCV antibodies; and
- detecting captured HCV antigens and/or captured anti-HCV antibodies.

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Under  
Review  
SC  
D